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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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केन्द्र-शासित प्रदेश लद्दाख प्रशासन
ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH

F. No. M-2513/2026

YOUTH SERVICES AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Ladakh, the 17th day of August, 2026

Subject: Notification of the New Ladakh Sports Policy 2026.

Reference: Approval of the Competent Authority (Hon'ble LG) conveyed vide e-file No. M/2513/2026-YS&S SECTION

Order No: 23-LA(YSS) of 2026
Dated: 17.08.2026

In Supersession of Order No.32-LA(YSS) of 2025 dated: 29.12.2025 sanction is hereby accorded to the notification of New Ladakh Sports Policy, 2026 of the Union Territory of Ladakh, as Annexure to this Order.

By order of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, UT of Ladakh.

Sd/-
(Bhanu Prabha) IAS
Administrative Secretary,
YS&S

The ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
NEW LADAKH SPORTS POLICY 2026

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES AND SPORTS UT OF LADAKH

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DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, unless the context otherwise requires:

i) "**Athlete" or "Sportsperson"** means any person, irrespective of gender, who participates in a recognized sporting discipline, and includes women and girl sportspersons, para sportspersons and sportspersons of all gender identities. Both terms are used interchangeably in this Policy, and "sportsperson" shall be the operative term.

ii) **"Coach"** means a person possessing qualifications recognized by the Department, Sports Authority of India (SAI), the concerned National Sports Federation or any other authority recognized by the Government, and engaged in coaching or training sportspersons.

iii) **"Competition"** means any sporting event organized or recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, the Sports Authority of India, the Indian Olympic Association, the Indian Paralympic Committee, a recognized National Sports Federation, or the respective International Sports Federation.

iv) **"Competent Authority"** means the authority designated by the Government or Department for the purposes of this Policy.

v) **"Department"** means the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Union Territory of Ladakh.

vi) **"Focus Sports"** means the sports disciplines notified under Section 6.1 of this Policy, as amended from time to time.

vii) **"Government"** means the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

viii) **"High- Performance Athlete"** means a sportsperson identified by the Department or the Ladakh Sports Council for specialized training under a High Performance or Long-Term Athlete Development Program.

ix) **"Ladakh Sports Council (LSC)"** means the Society registered by the Government for promotion, regulation and development of sports in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

x) **"Long-Term Athlete-Development Program (LTADP)"** means a structured and scientific athlete development framework designed to progressively develop sportspersons from grassroots participation to elite performance.

xi) **"National Sports Federation (NSF)"** means a Sports Federation recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India.

xii) **"Para Sportsperson"** means a sportsperson eligible to participate in recognized para-sports in accordance with the rules of the concerned National or International Federation.

xiii) **"Resident/Domicile Certificate"** means a valid Resident or Domicile Certificate issued by the competent authority of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

xiv) **"Sports Association"** means a Sports Association recognized by the Ladakh Sports Council and affiliated with the respective National Sports Federation recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India.

xv) **"Sports Club"** means a club registered and recognized by the Ladakh Sports Council for promotion and development of sports.

xvi) **"Sports Infrastructure"** means any stadium, sports complex, playground, indoor hall, training center, sports academy, Centre of Excellence or any other sports facility established or recognized by the Government or the Ladakh Sports Council.

xvii) **"Sports Science"** means the application of scientific disciplines, including sports medicine,

exercise physiology, biomechanics, nutrition, psychology, physiotherapy, performance analysis and other allied sciences, for improving athletic performance and athlete welfare.

xviii) **"Talent Identification"** means the systematic process of identifying, assessing and selecting promising sportspersons for structured coaching and long-term athlete development.

xix) **"Union Territory" or "UT"** means the Union Territory of Ladakh.

xx) **"Gender-Responsive Infrastructure"** means sports infrastructure designed and maintained to ensure the safe, dignified and equal use of the facility by women and girls, including separate, secure, well-lit and functional toilets, changing rooms, rest areas and residential facilities.

xxi) **"PoSH Act"** means the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

xxii) **"Safe Sports Policy"** means the policy notified under Section 8.5 of this Policy.

xxiii) **"Sex-Disaggregated Data"** means data collected, analyzed and reported separately for male, female and other gender categories.

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Meaning
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DYSS	Directorate of Youth Services & Sports
GAD	General Administration Department
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
LTADP	Long-Term Athlete Development Program
LSC	Ladakh Sports Council
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MYAS	Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
NCC	National Cadet Corps
NSF	National Sports Federation
NSS	National Service Scheme
PET	Physical Education Teacher
PEM	Physical Education Master
PEL	Physical Education Lecturer
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
REK	Rehbar-i-Khel
SAI	Sports Authority of India
SMIS	Sports Management Information System
UT	Union Territory of Ladakh
NADA	National Anti-Doping Agency
POCSO	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act,2012
PoSH	Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013
RED-S	Relative Energy Deficiency in Sport
SCDP	Strategic Coach Development Program

1. INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble

Sports are integral to public health, youth development and nation-building. The Administration of UT Ladakh recognizes sports as an important instrument for physical fitness, social inclusion and economic development and therefore accords high priority to their promotion.

1.2 Vision and Mission

Vision

To establish Ladakh as a leading sporting destination by fostering a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable sports ecosystem that promotes physical literacy, lifelong participation and sporting excellence, while leveraging the Union Territory's unique strengths in winter sports and high-altitude training to achieve national and international recognition.

Mission

The New Ladakh Sports Policy 2026 seeks to create an enabling environment for sports through the principles of **"Scout, Facilitate and Recognize."** The Policy aims to:

- Promote sports and physical activity as an integral part of everyday life and human development;
- Identify and nurture sporting talent through a structured pathway from grassroots participation to high-performance excellence;
- Develop modern sports infrastructure, strengthen institutions and adopt sports science and technology to enhance athlete performance;
- Ensure equitable opportunities for all, including women, para sportspersons and underserved communities;
- Foster partnerships with educational institutions, sports organizations, defense forces and the private sector; and
- Position Ladakh as a national hub for winter sports, high-altitude training and sports tourism.

Through these strategic interventions, the Government seeks to create a resilient and self-sustaining sports ecosystem that empowers youth, enhances public health, promotes social inclusion and contributes to the socio-economic development of the Union Territory.

1.3 Goals and Objectives

The New Ladakh Sports Policy 2026 seeks to establish a vibrant, inclusive and high-performing sports ecosystem that promotes physical literacy, nurtures sporting talent and enables excellence at all levels. The Policy is guided by the principles of:

- Identify Talent
- Promote Participation
- Develop Excellence
- Recognize

Objectives

The Policy shall endeavor to:

i) Promote sports, physical literacy and fitness as an integral part of everyday life across all sections of society.

ii) Establish a structured pathway for talent identification, athlete development and high-performance sports through scientific coaching, sports science and modern infrastructure.

iii) Ensure equitable access to quality sports infrastructure, coaching, competitions and opportunities, with special emphasis on women, para sportspersons and underserved communities.

iv) Strengthen sports governance, institutions and human resource capacity through transparent, professional and accountable systems.

v) Foster collaboration with educational institutions, sports associations, defense forces, the private sector and other stakeholders to build a sustainable sports ecosystem.

vi) Promote winter sports, high-altitude training, sports tourism and innovation to position Ladakh as a nationally recognized center of sporting excellence.

1.4 Interpretation of the Policy

If any question arises regarding the interpretation of any provision of this Policy, the matter shall be referred to the Lieutenant Governor, whose decision shall be final.

1.5 Policy Period

This Policy shall remain in force for a period of ten years from the date of its notification unless amended, modified or superseded earlier by the Government.

1.6 Non-Discrimination and Gender Equity

There shall be no discrimination against any person on the ground of gender, gender identity, disability, religion, caste, language, region or economic status in respect of selection, training, access to infrastructure, coaching, competition, awards, incentives, employment or participation in the governance of sport under this Policy.

Women and girls shall have equal opportunity and equal entitlement under every provision of this Policy. Awards, scholarships, incentives and prize money shall be identical for men and women at every level of competition, and no provision of this Policy shall be implemented so as to dilute this parity.

The eligibility of transgender and gender-diverse sportspersons to compete in a particular category shall be determined in accordance with the rules of the concerned National Sports Federation or International Sports Federation; provided that no such person shall be denied access to training, infrastructure, coaching, sports science support or the general benefits of this Policy on the ground of gender identity.

The Department shall designate a Gender Nodal Officer to oversee implementation of this Section and to report annually to the Ladakh Sports Council.

2. FITNESS, SPORTS FOR ALL

2. FITNESS, SPORTS FOR ALL

2.1 Strategy

The implementation of the New Ladakh Sports Policy 2026 shall be aligned with the National Sports Policy and the initiatives of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. The Government shall adopt an integrated approach to promote sports and physical fitness as a way of life, while creating a sustainable pathway from grassroots participation to sporting excellence.

The Government shall endeavor to:

i) Promote mass participation in sports and physical activity through community-based program awareness campaigns and recreational sporting events.

ii) Encourage early identification and systematic development of sporting talent through schools, educational institutions and community-level competitions.

iii) Develop and strengthen accessible, inclusive and all-weather sports infrastructure to support year-round participation.

iv) Promote partnerships with educational institutions, local bodies, sports organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders, including through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), for sports development.

v) Encourage healthy lifestyles and lifelong participation in sports to improve public health, social inclusion and youth development.

2.2 Wellness Through Sports & Fitness Activities: A Mandate

The New Ladakh Sports Policy 2026 would pave the way for an inclusive UT-Ladakh wide applicable mandate for prescribing universal wellness & fitness through sports & fitness activities, at the panchayat, zonal, district, UT, National & International levels.

2.3 Sports Governance System

The Government shall strengthen the institutional, legal and administrative framework for sports governance to ensure effective implementation of this Policy through transparent, accountable and professional institutions.

For this purpose, the Government shall:

Ensure that the Ladakh Sports Council, every District Sports Executive Body and every Selection and Screening Committee constituted under this Policy comprises not less than 33% women members, and includes at least one serving or former sportsperson and one para sportsperson.

Require every recognized Sports Association and Sports Club, as a condition of recognition and of receiving any grant, to (i) constitute an Internal Committee under the PoSH Act, (ii) adopt a child-protection protocol consistent with the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act,

2012, and (iii) include women in its executive body.

Publish an annual sports governance and gender report containing sex-disaggregated data on participation, coaching, awards, scholarships and infrastructure utilization.

Ensure adherence to the National Sports Code and to the sports governance legislation and rules for the time being in force, including provisions relating to elections, tenure, ethics and dispute resolution in sports bodies.

3. LADAKH SPORTS BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

3. LADAKH SPORTS BODIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

3.1 Directorate of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS)

The Directorate of Youth Services & Sports shall be the nodal department responsible for planning, promotion, development and implementation of sports, physical education and youth development programs in the Union Territory.

The Directorate shall, inter alia:

i) Promote physical education and sports in schools and educational institutions.
ii) Organize and conduct school, district, inter-district, Union Territory and National School Games in recognized disciplines.
iii) Identify and nurture sporting talent through structured talent identification programs.
iv) Develop, maintain and upgrade sports infrastructure, school playgrounds and community sports facilities under various schemes.
v) Promote Scouts & Guides, NCC, NSS, adventure sports, trekking, youth festivals, rural sports, National Sports Day and other youth development programs.
vi) Promote participation of women, persons with disabilities and other under-represented groups in sports.
vii) Issue guidelines for utilization of sports grants, conduct of competitions and implementation of programs under this Policy.

3.2 Ladakh Sports Council

The Ladakh Sports Council (LSC), registered under the Societies Registration Act, shall function as the apex body for the promotion, coordination and development of sports in the Union Territory. Until appointment of a regular Secretary, the Administrative Secretary, Department of Youth Services & Sports, shall serve as the ex-officio Secretary of the Council. The Council shall, inter alia:

i) Promote sports, physical fitness and athlete development across the Union Territory.
ii) Plan, develop, manage and optimize the utilization of sports infrastructure and other sports facilities.
iii) Recognize, regulate and extend technical, financial and infrastructural support to Sports Associations and Sports Clubs in accordance with this Policy.
iv) Appoint accomplished sports persons against the vacant positions of coaches and sports professionals with the approval of Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor.
v) Recommend sportspersons, coaches and technical officials for awards, incentives and other forms of recognition under this Policy.
vi) Advise the Government on matters relating to sports policy, infrastructure, athlete development and institutional reforms.
vii) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Government from time to time.
viii) Notwithstanding any other provision, the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor shall have the discretionary power to appoint eminent sportspersons of national or international repute as

Coaches or Advisors for specific sports disciplines for a minimum tenure of one year, on such remuneration and terms and conditions as may be determined by Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor. The sportsperson so appointed shall have represented India at the national / international level and possess a distinguished record of participation, achievement and contribution in their respective sport.

The composition of the Council shall ensure that not less than one-third of its members are women, and shall include at least one para sportsperson and two athlete representatives drawn from among sportspersons who have represented the Union Territory.

3.3 District Sports Executive Body

A District Sports Executive Body shall be constituted in each district to coordinate sports development programs at the district level. Its functions shall include:

i) Coordinating implementation of sports programs and activities within the district.
ii) Assisting the Department in organizing competitions, talent identification and coaching programs.
iii) Promoting community participation, health awareness and grassroots sports.
iv) Monitoring implementation of sports development initiatives.
v) Recommending deserving sportspersons, coaches and sports events for recognition and support.
vi) Preparing annual reports and utilization statements for submission to the Ladakh Sports Council.
vii) Performing such other functions as may be assigned by the Government or the Ladakh Sports Council.
viii) Not less than one-third of the members of every District Sports Executive Body shall be women, and each such Body shall designate a Gender and Safe Sports Focal Point.

3.4 Sports Clubs

The Government recognizes the important role of Sports Clubs in athlete development and promotion of community sports. The Ladakh Sports Council shall register and recognize Sports Clubs in accordance with prescribed norms and extend technical, infrastructural and financial assistance, subject to availability of resources and fulfilment of eligibility criteria.

3.5 Sports Officers and Coaches

i) The Ladakh Sports Council shall engage accomplished sports persons as coaches and sports officers in accordance with qualifications and standards notified by the Department with the approval of Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor.
ii) The Department shall establish a transparent performance management system including annual targets, capacity building, periodic evaluation and continuous professional development.
iii) Outstanding coaches shall be recognized through awards and incentives in accordance with schemes notified separately.
iv) Pooling of coaches and technical officials among Government departments may be

undertaken to optimize utilization of available human resources.

v) The Department shall set and publish annual targets for the recruitment, certification and retention of women coaches, women referees, umpires and judges, and women Physical Education Teachers, and shall reserve not less than one-third of the seats and scholarships under the Strategic Coach Development Program for women.

vi) At least one qualified woman coach or manager shall be engaged for each Focus Sport in which women or girls compete.

3.6 Referees, Umpires and Judges

The Department shall promote development of qualified referees, umpires and judges through certification, refresher courses, workshops and periodic assessment. A performance-based accreditation framework shall be developed, and outstanding technical officials may be recognized through awards notified separately.

3.7 Sports Associations

Recognized Sports Associations shall be key partners in the promotion and development of sports within the Union Territory.

The Government may provide assistance in the form of:

i) Coaching support;

ii) Training camps;

iii) Financial assistance for recognized competitions and participation in National and International events;

iv) Sports infrastructure and equipment; and

v) Such other assistance as may be notified from time to time.

The recognition, regulation and functioning of Sports Associations shall be governed by norms notified by the Ladakh Sports Council, consistent with the National Sports Code and the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. Recognition may be suspended or withdrawn for violation of the National Sports Code, this Policy or any guidelines issued by the Government.

Recognition shall not be granted or renewed unless the Sports Association has constituted an Internal Committee under the PoSH Act, adopted a child-protection protocol, and demonstrated compliance with the Safe Sports Policy notified under Section 8.5.

3.8 Co-Ordination with Educational System

A. Schools

i) The Department shall, in coordination with the School Education Department and other stakeholders:

ii) Prepare an annual sports calendar.

iii) Promote integration of sports into the school curriculum.

iv) Encourage participation of every student in at least one sport.

v) Organize inter-school competitions and talent identification programs.

vi) Strengthen deployment of Physical Education Teachers and improve sports

infrastructure.

vii) Provide appropriate academic flexibility to students participating in recognized competitions.

B. Higher Educational Institutions

i) Colleges and Universities shall promote sports and physical education among students and collaborate with the Department and the Ladakh Sports Council in organizing coaching, competitions and talent development programs.

3.9 Interdepartmental Synergies

The Dept. of YSS shall strive to seek convergence of different departments and shall take the initiative to use sporting talent in competitive sports at the UT, national and international levels as required.

3.10 Athlete's Commission

An Athletes' Commission shall be constituted, comprising serving and former sportspersons of the Union Territory elected by their peers, with not less than 50% women members and at least one para sportsperson. The Commission shall advise the Ladakh Sports Council on athlete welfare, safety, selection policy and grievance redressal, and its Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of the Council.

4. SPORTS EDUCATION, COACHING AND EXCELLENCE

The sports resources & knowledge within the UT of Ladakh will be divided into a two-pillar system:

A. Sports Education & Coaching.
B. Sports for Excellence.

4.1 Sports Education & Coaching

Sports Education

The Government recognizes sports and physical education as essential components of holistic education, youth development and sporting excellence. The Department shall promote the integration of sports within the education system to foster physical literacy, healthy lifestyles and a culture of lifelong participation. The Department shall endeavor to:

i) Integrate age-appropriate sports and physical education programs across schools, colleges, universities and Centers of Excellence.
ii) Strengthen the capacity of Physical Education Teachers, coaches and sports professionals through training, certification and continuous professional development.
iii) Promote the adoption of sports science, technology and evidence-based coaching practices to enhance athlete development and performance.
iv) Encourage higher education, research and professional training in sports science and allied disciplines.
v) Ensure transparent and merit-based selection of sportspersons, coaches and beneficiaries under Government schemes through digital systems in accordance with applicable laws.

Sports Coaching

The Government shall establish a structured coaching ecosystem to develop qualified coaches capable of nurturing sportspersons from grassroots to elite levels. Coaching standards, accreditation, certification, performance evaluation and career progression shall be governed through the Strategic Coach Development Program (SCDP) notified separately by the Department.

4.2 Strategic Coach Development Program[1]

The Department shall implement a Strategic Coach Development Program comprising the following levels:

a. Community Coach;
b. Intermediate Coach; and
c. Elite Coach.

The Program shall include the following components:

i) Identification and accreditation of coaching talent;

[1] A separate notification shall be carried out by UT of Ladakh to notify Strategic Coach Development Program (SCDP)

ii) Education, certification and continuous professional development;
iii) Periodic performance assessment and licensing; and
iv) Career progression, incentives and recognition.

The eligibility criteria, accreditation framework, certification standards, monitoring mechanism, career progression and incentive structure under the SCDP shall be prescribed separately by the Department through notification. The Department may prescribe minimum qualification standards for engagement of coaches under various schemes.

Talent Retention & Development

Outstanding sportspersons shall be encouraged to pursue coaching as a professional career upon completion of their competitive careers, thereby facilitating retention of sporting expertise within the Union Territory. The Department shall formulate appropriate mechanisms to utilize such experienced sportspersons in coaching, mentoring and athlete development programs.

4.3 Sports for Excellence

The Government shall establish and strengthen Centers of Excellence to promote high-performance sports through scientific coaching, sports science support, research, Long-Term Athlete Development Programs (LTADP), knowledge exchange and institutional capacity building.

The Department shall collaborate with national and international institutions to facilitate knowledge transfer, advanced coaching and athlete development, with the objective of developing internationally competitive sportspersons.

4.4 Talent Search & Training

The Department shall establish a structured and transparent talent identification system for scouting promising sportspersons across the Union Territory, particularly in schools and rural areas.

Identified sportspersons shall be provided appropriate coaching, equipment, sports science support, exposure, scholarships and long-term athlete development opportunities in accordance with schemes notified by the Government. The selected candidates shall be put through a well-structured sports development program on the pattern of SAI schemes.

4.5 Para Sportspersons

The Government of UT Ladakh through designated sports bodies shall take all necessary steps to meet sporting needs of para sportspersons. Due care shall be taken to ensure that there are sufficient infrastructure, training facilities and competitive events to enable them to participate fully in sports. District and UT level tournaments shall be organized in various games for para sportspersons.

4.6 Women and Girls in Sports

The Government recognizes that women and girls in Ladakh face specific barriers to participation in sport, including distance and mobility constraints, safety concerns, the absence of gender-responsive facilities, the limited number of women coaches, and prevailing social expectations. The Government shall take affirmative measures to remove these barriers.

The Government shall endeavor to:

- Achieve, within the Policy period, not less than 40% participation of women and girls in

5. AWARDS AND INCENTIVES

5. AWARDS & INCENTIVES

The Awards and incentives shall be provided to encourage and motivate the outstanding sportsperson for even higher achievements and to attract the younger generation to adopt sports as a career. These awards shall serve as recognition of the outstanding achievements and contributions of sportspersons to the Union Territory and the Nation.

5.1 Awards

The awards for the outstanding sportspersons and coaches shall be announced every year on the occasion of Republic Day celebration. Such awards will enhance the prestige of sportspersons and motivate them to perform better at the national and international levels. The scope of the award shall be suitably increased/modified and notified by the UT administration of Ladakh from time to time. Awards to sportspersons and coaches shall be conferred annually, and shall be identical in value for men and women.

i) UT Award (Sports Category)

The awards for the outstanding sportspersons shall be announced every year on the occasion of Republic Day celebrations as per the circular already issued by the GAD and on the recommendation of the Ladakh Sports Council.

ii) Awards for Coaches and Physical Education Officials

This award shall be conferred to 01 best Coach in a different discipline every three years and shall carry a cash prize of INR 1.00 lakh per head. The Union Territory Coaches who have trained medal winners for at least 180 days in the preceding two-year period before the event will be eligible for cash award under the scheme.
Not less than one-third of the awards conferred in any year shall be reserved for women coaches, subject to the availability of eligible candidates.

5.2 Scholarship to Outstanding Sportspersons

The Government of the Union Territory of Ladakh shall provide scholarships to outstanding sportspersons to encourage sustained sporting excellence and support athlete development.

Scholarships shall be admissible for medal winners in recognized International, National and Union Territory-level competitions, including National School Games and Khelo India Games, in the Focus Sports notified under this Policy.

Amount in INR (per person per month) for 12 months			
Level	**Gold**	**Silver**	**Bronze**

International	Rs. 1,00,000	Rs. 80,000	Rs.60,000
National (including National Level School Games)	Rs.75,000	Rs.50,000	Rs.30,000
UT Level [2] (including UT Level School Games)	Rs.10,000	Rs.7,000	Rs.5,000

Eligibility and Conditions

i) Scholarships shall be admissible only for achievements in competitions recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, or the respective International Sports Federation, and conducted by Sports Associations recognized by the Ladakh Sports Council.

ii) Only sportspersons holding a valid Resident/Domicile Certificate of the Union Territory of Ladakh shall be eligible.

iii) The scholarship shall ordinarily be awarded for one year from the date of the qualifying achievement. Where a sportsperson secures a higher-level achievement during the scholarship period, the scholarship shall be upgraded from the date of such achievement for a fresh period of one year.

iv) Only the highest eligible achievement of a sportsperson shall be considered for grant of scholarship.

v) A sportsperson may avail both the scholarship and the cash award under this Policy; however, scholarship shall not be admissible where the sportsperson is receiving a scholarship for the same achievement from the Sports Authority of India, the Central Government or any other Government agency.

vi) Scholarships shall be released after verification by the competent authority in accordance with the procedure notified by the Department.

vii) Any sportsperson found guilty of submission of false claims, doping violations, sports-related misconduct or criminal activity shall be liable for cancellation of the scholarship and may be debarred from future benefits under this Policy.

viii) The Department may notify detailed operational guidelines, including application, verification, sanction and disbursement procedures, from time to time.

[2] Only for the focus sports specified under Section 6.1 of this policy

5.3 Special Cash Award to Outstanding Sportspersons

Apart from the monthly scholarship as specified under section 5.2 of this policy, special cash award shall be given to the sportsperson of Union Territory of Ladakh who wins First, Second and Third position in recognized International / National/ State level competitions/tournaments conducted by authorized International / National / State sports bodies as per the details given below:

5.3.1 Cash Award for Medal Winners at International Tournaments/ Championships (in INR Lacs)

S. No	Event Name	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1.	Olympic Games	100.00	75.00	50.00
2.	Asian Games	50.00	30.00	25.00
3.	Commonwealth Games	25.00	15.00	10.00
4.	Commonwealth /Asian Championship (Senior)	15.00	10.00	5.00
5.	Commonwealth /Asian Championship (Juniors)	15.00	10.00	5.00
6.	World Cup/ Championship (Once in every four years)	80.00	60.00	40.00
7.	World Cup/ Championship (Annual)	50.00	30.00	20.00
8.	Youth Olympic Games	25.00	20.00	15.00
9.	Youth Asian Games and World University Games /Championship	15.00	10.00	5.00
10.	On becoming: International Grand Master of Chess	100.00		
	International Master of Chess	75.00		

11.	World/ Asian Marathon	40.00	20.00	10.00
12.	Participation in Olympic Games and Paralympics	Participation only	10.00 (Individual Event) 5.00 (Team Event)	

5.3.2 Cash Award for Medal Winners at National Level Tournaments/ Championships (In INR Lacs)

S. No	Category	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
1.	Senior	25.00	20.00	15.00
2.	Junior	20.00	15.00	10.00

5.3.3 Cash Award for Medal Winners in School Games

To encourage young sportspersons and strengthen sports culture at the school level, one-time cash awards shall be provided to students of Ladakh securing medals in recognized National School Games conducted by SGFI and UT Level School Games, as under:

i) National School Games/All India University Games (In INR Lacs)

S. No	Category	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
1.	Senior	10.00	8.00	5.00
2.	Junior	10.00	8.00	5.00
3.	Sub-Junior	5.00	4.00	3.00

ii) Cluster/Zonal School Games/Regional and Zonal University Games (In INR Lacs)

S. No	Category	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
1.	Senior	5.00	4.00	3.00
2.	Junior	5.00	4.00	3.00
3.	Sub-Junior	3.00	2.00	1.00

iii) UT Level School Games

(In INR Lacs)

S. No	Category	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal
1.	Senior	0.50	0.30	0.25
2.	Junior	0.50	0.30	0.25
3.	Sub-Junior	0.50	0.30	0.25

5.3.4 Cash Award for Mountaineering Achievement

Sportspersons/adventurers belonging to the Union Territory of Ladakh who successfully summit mountain peak above 8,000 meters in altitude anywhere in the world, duly certified by the Indian Mountaineering Foundation or any other competent authority recognized by the Government of India, shall be eligible for a special cash award of ₹10,00,000 (Rupees Ten Lakh only).

The cash award shall be subject to such eligibility conditions, verification procedures and other norms as may be prescribed by the Department of Youth Services & Sports from time to time.

5.3.5 Cash Award for Para-Sports

(In INR Lacs)

S. No	EVENT NAME	GOL D	SILVER	BRONZE
1.	Para Games Olympic	100.00	75.00	50.00
2.	Para Asian Games	50.00	30.00	25.00
3.	Para Commonwealth Games	25.00	15.00	10.00
4.	Para Commonwealth/ Asian Championship (Seniors)	15.00	10.00	5.00
5.	Para Commonwealth/Asian Championships (Juniors)	15.00	10.00	5.00

6.	Para Sports (Individual Events in National Seniors and Junior Championships)	25.00	20.00	15.00
7.	Para Sports (Team Events in National Senior and Junior) * To be distributed equally among the team members	25.00	20.00	15.00
8.	Visually Impaired Sports, Hearing Impaired Sports and Special Olympic sports (Individual/Team Events in national seniors and junior championships) * In case of team events, to be distributed equally among the team members	5.00	3.00	2.00

5.4 Procedure of Selection

i) Applications for grant of cash awards shall be submitted in the prescribed format to the Secretary, Ladakh Sports Council, either directly by the eligible sportsperson or through the concerned Union Territory Level Sports Association recognized by the Ladakh Sports Council and affiliated with the respective National Sports Federation recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

ii) Every application shall be accompanied by authenticated details of the competition, including the name of the event, venue, date, discipline, position secured, and such other documents as may be prescribed. The particulars shall be verified by the competent authority before the award is sanctioned.

iii) Claims relating to achievements of earlier years shall not be entertained.

iv) The Government, on the recommendation of the Ladakh Sports Council, may, by notification, revise the quantum of awards, incentives, eligible competitions, or any other related provisions from time to time.

5.5 The Eligibility and Conditions for cash awards

i) The applicant shall be a holder of a valid **Resident/Domicile Certificate** of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

ii) The sportsperson shall ordinarily have represented the Union Territory of Ladakh prior to their selection for participation in the National Team or International competitions; provided

that the Ladakh Sports Council may relax this requirement in the case of a sportsperson holding a valid Resident/Domicile Certificate of the Union Territory who was selected through a Sports Authority of India center, the Armed Forces, a Central Armed Police Force, or an educational institution outside the Union Territory.

iii) Cash awards shall be admissible only for medals or performances achieved in recognized competitions conducted by Sports Associations/Federations recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. In the case of international competitions, only events recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the concerned International Sports Federation recognized by the IOC/IPC, or specifically approved by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, shall be eligible. Competitions conducted by private or unrecognized organizations shall not qualify unless specifically notified by the Government.

iv) A sportsperson shall be eligible to receive a cash award for securing a Gold, Silver or Bronze medal in an eligible individual or team event. In team events, the prescribed cash award shall be admissible to each eligible member of the medal-winning team, unless otherwise specifically provided.

v) The Department of Youth Services & Sports shall constitute such Screening/Selection Committee(s) as may be necessary for scrutiny and recommendation of eligible cases.

vi) Any sportsperson found guilty of sports-related misconduct, doping violations, criminal activity, submission of false claims or forged documents, or, in the case of an in-service sportsperson, disciplinary misconduct, shall be disqualified from receiving benefits under this Policy and may be debarred from future benefits.

vii) Any sportsperson who is suspended or sanctioned under the Anti-Doping Rules of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) or World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) shall not be eligible for awards or incentives during the period of ineligibility.

5.6 Appointment of Outstanding Sportspersons and Grant of Incentive to In-Service Sportspersons[3]

i) To promote the youth of Ladakh to excel in sports, the Administration shall provide employment to outstanding sportspersons. For the purposes of this Section, an "outstanding sportsperson" means a person who has won a medal at a recognized National competition, or has represented India at, or won a medal in, a recognized international competition conducted by a body recognized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. A horizontal reservation of 4% shall be provided for outstanding sportspersons in non-gazetted cadres in all Government posts, subject to the applicable recruitment rules and to a separate notification by the General Administration Department, which shall specify the qualifying competitions, the cadres covered, the roster and carry-forward rules, and the verification procedure. Appointments made under this Section shall be reported annually, with sex-disaggregated data, to the Ladakh Sports Council.

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[3] The General Administration Department, UT of Ladakh shall issue a separate Notification in this regard as per DoPT, GoI, guidelines.

ii) In-service sportspersons who excel in sports during their service career, shall be considered for grant of advance increments, incentives and out-of-turn promotion as per the DoPT GOI guidelines and a Notification in this regard shall be issued by the General Administration Department, separately.

5.7 Anti-Doping and Age Verification

All sportspersons, coaches and support personnel receiving any benefit under this Policy shall be bound by the Anti-Doping Rules of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA). The Department shall provide anti-doping education, facilitate testing at Union Territory level competitions, and implement age-verification protocols in all junior and sub-junior categories. Submission of a false age or identity shall attract disqualification and debarment from benefits under this Policy.

6. FOCUS SPORTS

6. FOCUS SPORTS

This policy proposes a stage wise plan by identification of high participation & performance Focus Sports, consisting of Olympic & Non-Olympic sports. Focus Sports will allow the UT to focus on disciplines that promises highest level of results in terms of broad-based participation, talent identification, nurturing and competitive returns for UT at National /International levels.

6.1 List of Focus Sports [4]

i) The following sports are being considered as focus sports from the UT of Ladakh and shall be considered for the purpose of this policy.

ii) Inclusion of a sport in the Focus Sports list shall not by itself confer any right to financial assistance or incentives unless otherwise provided under this Policy or a scheme notified thereunder.

iii) The list of Focus Sports shall be reviewed periodically by the Government on the recommendation of the Ladakh Sports Council based on participation, performance, medal potential, emerging disciplines and strategic priorities.

Olympic Disciplines	Non-Olympic Disciplines
1. Ice Hockey	1. Mountaineering
2. Athletics	2. Traditional Archery
3. Badminton	3. Ice Climbing
4. Basketball	4. Cricket
5. Volleyball	5. Chess
6. Football	6. Kabaddi
7. Hockey	7. Kho Kho
8. Wrestling (International Style)	8. Power lifting (composite events only)
9. Handball	9. Roller Skating
10. Table Tennis	10. Wushu
11. Boxing	11. Karate
12. Gymnastics	12. Netball
13. Taekwondo	13. Pencak Silat
14. Judo	
15. Weightlifting	
16. Skiing (ice and snow)	
17. Cycling	
18. Archery	
19. Rifle Shooting	

[4] The above categorization is however not conclusive and will be reviewed from time to time depending upon the relative performance, status and popularity etc. of various disciplines.

20. Tennis	
21. Triathlon	
22. Equestrian	
23. Ice Skating	
24. Curling	
25. Para Sports	

7. INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE & AUGMENTATION

7. INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE & AUGMENTATION

With sincere long-term efforts of the Department, UT Ladakh aims to become one of the top UTs across the country to enjoy a formidable pool of sports infrastructural assets across a wide spectrum of sports. Having an existing sports infrastructure of repute is an advantage in itself. The thrust of policy is to create futuristic sports facilities in tune with evolving times, while at the same time augmenting the existing facilities to bring them at par with latest sports techniques and globally mandated standards. Sports infrastructure shall be planned and developed in accordance with national standards, accessibility requirements, environmental sustainability and future sporting needs.

i) **Development of Sports Infrastructure:** The Administration shall endeavor to establish the following sports infrastructure in a phased manner, subject to availability of suitable land, technical feasibility and budgetary provisions:

At every District Headquarters:

- A Multipurpose Indoor Stadium;
- An AstroTurf Ground; and
- A Practice Ice Hockey Rink.

At every Sub-Divisional Headquarters:

- Multipurpose Indoor Stadium;
- A Futsal Ground; and
- A Practice Ice Hockey Rink.

All sports infrastructure created, upgraded or maintained under this Policy shall be gender-responsive and accessible. Every facility shall provide separate, secure, well-lit and functional toilets, changing rooms and rest areas for women and girls; residential and hostel facilities shall have women wardens and secure access control. No new facility shall be commissioned, and no upgradation certified complete, unless these requirements are met.

Facilities shall be designed in accordance with the Harmonized Guidelines and Standards for Universal Accessibility, and shall meet environmental sustainability standards appropriate to Ladakh's cold-desert ecology, including water conservation and energy efficiency.

ii) Optimum Utilization of Sports Infrastructure/Facilities: It is equally significant that these facilities are optimally utilized and regularly upgraded taking into account the needs and requirements of sportspersons. The department shall engage with all stakeholders to ensure optimum utilization of existing sports infrastructure and facilities.

iii) Advertisements in Sports Complexes: There is a vast potential to lease out this space to sponsors at fixed rates/charges as sponsors utilize this space for their brand value and promotion. The department will explore various instruments of advertisement such as unipolar, digital screens, hoardings etc. inside the premises of sports complexes on a

chargeable basis. A pre-defined set of rules and norms in this regard shall be formulated by the department. Advertisements shall not be permitted where they are indecent or derogatory to women, or contrary to the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, or where they promote alcohol, tobacco or betting.

8. OTHER INITIATIVES

8. OTHER INITIATIVES

8.1 Grassroots Sports Development

To create a holistic, robust and sustainable Sports eco-system in the Union territory of Ladakh, the policy envisages a comprehensive approach, to identify, develop and sustain the Sporting Talent of the region. This is to be done by adopting a 360-degree approach comprising of following broad interventions.

i) **School Sports Promotion Program:** A structured School Sports Promotion Program shall be implemented to encourage participation of students in sports and physical activities. The Department shall organize regular Inter-School competitions and promote sports as an integral part of holistic education.

ii) **Rural Talent Hunt:** The Department, though, Ladakh Sports Council shall conduct a Rural Sports Talent Identification Program across villages and remote areas of Ladakh for identifying promising sportspersons. The identified sportspersons shall be provided access to coaching, equipment, specialized training camps, exposure visits and opportunities to participate in higher-level competitions.

iii) **Structured Competition Framework:** A structured competition pathway shall be established beginning with Inter-School competitions and progressing through Sub-Divisional, District and Union Territory-level championships, which shall serve as the primary mechanism for identification and nurturing of sporting talent.

8.2 Collaboration with Indian Army, Central Armed Police Forces and Other Institutions

The Administration shall enter into Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with the Indian Army, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), educational institutions and other suitable organizations for cooperation in the following areas:

i) Access and shared utilization of sports infrastructure;
ii) Coaching and technical expertise;
iii) High-performance training programs;
iv) Organization of joint sports events and competitions; and
v) Exposure camps and specialized training for sportspersons.

8.3 High-Performance Sports Development

The Government shall promote a high-performance sports ecosystem to enable sportspersons of the Union Territory to compete successfully at the National and International levels through scientific coaching, sports science, modern infrastructure and structured athlete development programs. Not less than one-third of the places in high-performance and Long-Term Athlete Development Programs shall be available to women sportspersons.

The Government shall endeavor to:

i) Strengthen and operationalize the **Khelo India State Centre of Excellence, Ladakh,** by providing qualified coaches, modern equipment and sports science support.
ii) Establish a **National High-Altitude Centre of Excellence** to leverage Ladakh's unique geographical advantages for elite training, research and high-altitude sports.
iii) Engage eminent coaches, sportspersons and technical experts, on such terms as may be prescribed, for specialized coaching and mentoring.
iv) Promote collaboration with the Sports Authority of India, National Sports Federations, educational institutions and other national and international organizations for athlete development, research and capacity building.
v) Frame appropriate schemes for identification and long-term development of elite sportspersons, including coaching, sports science support, equipment, exposure and competition opportunities.
vi) Establish a data-driven athlete monitoring system through periodic performance assessment and application of sports science.

8.4 Training & Development of Coaches

The Government recognizes that competent and continuously upskilled coaches are essential for athlete development and sporting excellence. The Department shall promote continuous professional development of coaches through the Strategic Coach Development Program (SCDP) and other initiatives. The Department shall endeavor to:

i) Organize refresher courses, workshops, certification programs and coaching exchange initiatives in collaboration with the Sports Authority of India, National Sports Federations, educational institutions and other recognized organizations.
ii) Promote capacity building in sports science, sports medicine, sports psychology, nutrition, biomechanics, injury prevention and contemporary coaching methodologies.
iii) Establish a transparent system for periodic performance evaluation of coaches linked to athlete development and outcomes.
iv) Recognize and incentivize outstanding coaching performance through awards, financial incentives and career advancement opportunities in accordance with schemes notified by the Government.

8.5 Safe Sports Policy and Grievances Redressal

The Department shall notify a comprehensive Safe Sports Policy to ensure a safe, inclusive and respectful sporting environment across all recognized sports bodies in the Union Territory.

The Safe Sports Policy shall, inter alia, provide for:

i) Prevention of sexual harassment, child abuse, bullying, discrimination and all forms of misconduct.
ii) Protection of the rights, dignity, safety and well-being of sportspersons, coaches, officials and other stakeholders.
iii) Establishment of a fair, transparent and time-bound grievance redressal mechanism by all recognized Sports Associations.
iv) Mandatory constitution of an Internal Committee under the PoSH Act by the Department, the Ladakh Sports Council, every District Sports Executive Body, every Centre of Excellence and every recognized Sports Association and Sports Club, as a condition of recognition and of receipt of any grant.
v) Compliance with the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, including mandatory background verification of coaches and support personnel working with minors. Mandatory accompaniment of every woman's or girl's contingent by a qualified woman coach, manager or chaperone.
vi) An independent and confidential reporting channel, protection of complainants against retaliation, and time-bound disposal of complaints.

The Safe Sports Policy shall be notified within six months from the date of notification of this Policy.

8.6 Sports Injury & Rehabilitation

The Government shall promote sports medicine and rehabilitation to support athlete welfare, injury prevention and safe return to sport. The Government shall endeavor to:

i) Establish Sports Injury and Rehabilitation Centers with appropriate sports medicine, physiotherapy, rehabilitation and sports science facilities.
ii) Facilitate access to qualified sports medicine professionals and promote collaboration with hospitals, medical institutions, the Sports Authority of India and other public and private institutions, including through Public-Private Partnerships.
iii) Develop standard protocols for injury prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and return-to-play in accordance with nationally and internationally accepted practices.
iv) Promote awareness and capacity building among sportspersons, coaches and support personnel on sports medicine, injury prevention and rehabilitation.

8.7 Wall of Fame

To honor and acknowledge the elite sports persons of Ladakh and inspire budding sportspersons, a Wall of Fame will be created in every sports complex managed by the sports department, as well as in government and private educational institutions. This initiative will inspire young sportspersons by recognizing the achievements of distinguished sportspersons and encouraging future generations to pursue excellence in sports.

8.8 Data Bank of Sportspersons

The Department shall establish an integrated Sports Management Information System (SMIS) for registration of sportspersons and digital management of athlete performance, sports infrastructure,

grants and other sports development initiatives. The system shall:

i) Maintain a comprehensive digital database of sportspersons, in accordance with applicable data protection and privacy laws.
ii) Support evidence-based athlete development through performance monitoring, periodic assessment and training management.
iii) Facilitate planning, monitoring and implementation of sports programs in collaboration with the Ladakh Sports Council and other concerned agencies.

8.9 Mapping of Sports Infrastructure & Manpower

The Department shall prepare and periodically update a geo-tagged digital inventory of sports infrastructure and human resources, disaggregated by sex, to support evidence-based planning, optimum resource utilization and infrastructure development in accordance with this Policy.

8.10 Sports Tourism

The Government recognizes the unique geographical, climatic and natural advantages of Ladakh and shall promote Sports Tourism as a strategic initiative for enhancing sports participation, tourism, employment generation and local economic development.

The Department of Youth Services & Sports, in coordination with the Tourism Department and other stakeholders, shall endeavor to develop Ladakh as a premier destination for winter, adventure and high-altitude sports by promoting sustainable utilization of its natural resources and sports infrastructure.

By order of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, UT of Ladakh.

Copy to the:

1. Joint Secretary (JKL), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
2. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

Copy also to the:

3. Chief Secretary, UT of Ladakh.
4. Director General of Police, UT of Ladakh.
5. All Administrative Secretary, UT of Ladakh.
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, Ladakh.
7. Deputy Commissioners/CEs, LAHDC, Leh/Kargil.
8. All Heads of the Department, UT of Ladakh.
9. Technical Director, NIC, Ladakh for uploading the notification on the website.
10. Superintendent, Archives Ladakh.
11. Under Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor for the information of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor.

12.PS to the Chief Secretary, UT of Ladakh for the kind information of the Chief Secretary.
13.Order/Stock file.

(Padma Angmo) JKAS
Under Secretary
Youth Services & Sports Department.

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